

Production No. 9F16

The Simpsons

"THE FRONT"

Written by

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Created by
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Developed by
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FINAL DELIVERY

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by

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Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER
BART.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH
HOMER'S BRAIN.....DAN CASTELLANETA
BART'S BRAIN.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
LISA'S BRAIN.....YEARDLEY SMITH
GRAMPADAN CASTELLANETA
BROOKE SHIELDS.....HERSELF
KRUSTY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
CHEF.....HARRY SHEARER
ITCHY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
SCRATCHY.....HARRY SHEARER
ROGER MEYERS.....HANK AZARIA
WRITER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
ROXIE.....DORIS GRAU
ADULT.....HARRY SHEARER
PRINCIPAL DONDELINGER...HARRY SHEARER

BARNEY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MOE.....HANK AZARIA
BARNEY'S BOSS.....HANK AZARIA
ARTIE ZIFF.....DAN CASTELLANETA
JASPER.....HARRY SHEARER
ORDERLY.....HANK AZARIA
BOBBY MINDICH.....HANK AZARIA
NELSON'S DAD.....DAN CASTELLANETA
NELSON.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
WRITER #2.....HARRY SHEARER
JAPANESE SCRATCHY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
GERMAN SCRATCHY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
FRENCH SCRATCHY.....HANK AZARIA
WIGGUM.....HANK AZARIA
QUIMBY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
PARKING LOT ATTENDANT...HANK AZARIA
ELVIS-TYPE.....DAN CASTELLANETA
ANNOUNCER (V.O.).....HARRY SHEARER
CHILD.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. KRUSTY THE CLOWN SHOW - DAY

KRUSTY is doing a cooking demonstration with a deli CHEF.

KRUSTY

(SAMPLING FOOD) Mmm. Delicious.

CHEF

Now, Krusty, I heard it's your birthday
so I got your mother's recipe for
matzoh brei.

KRUSTY

Hey, I don't do the Jewish stuff on the
air.

CHEF

But Herschel, bubbeleh --

KRUSTY

Ix-nay on the Ew-Jay! (TO CAMERA) Roll
the cartoon.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

BART and LISA watch the television.

LISA

It's so sad that Krusty is ashamed of
his roots.

HOMER walks by with a plunger stuck to his head. He yanks at it.

HOMER

Marge, it happened again!

Bart and Lisa watch this.

BART

What are you going to change your name
to when you grow up?

LISA

Lois Sanborn.

BART

(POINTING TO SELF) Steve Bennett.

The Itchy and Scratchy **THEME** starts and the title comes on:
"DAZED AND CONTUSED."

ANGLE - THE SCREEN

A poorly animated ITCHY is lethargically **HITTING** SCRATCHY
with a mallet.

SCRATCHY

Ow.

ITCHY

(MIRTHLESS) He, he, he.

SCRATCHY

Ow.

ITCHY

(MIRTHLESS) He, he, he.

SCRATCHY

Ow.

ITCHY

(MIRTHLESS) He, he, he.

ANGLE ON BART AND LISA

LISA

This is a rather lifeless outing.

BART

Don't worry. They're building to something.

ANGLE ON THE SCREEN

SCRATCHY

Ow.

ITCHY

(MIRTHLESS) He, he, he.

Itchy and Scratchy turn to CAMERA.

ITCHY/SCRATCHY

Kids, say no to drugs.

They both smile very inanely.

TITLE CARD: THE END

INT. KRUSTY THE CLOWN SHOW - CONTINUOUS

Krusty has a cigarette in his hand.

KRUSTY

(DISGUSTED NOISE) I could pull a better cartoon out of my... (NOTICING THE CAMERA) Hey, whoa! Wasn't that great kids?

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

LISA

That's as bad as the tasteless Itchy
and Sambo cartoons of the late 30's.
The writers should be ashamed of
themselves.

BART

Cartoons have writers?

LISA

Sort of.

BART

Oh yeah, well you and I could write a
better cartoon than that.

Lisa gets an idea.

LISA

Bart, are you thinking what I'm
thinking?

BART

Probably not.

ANGLE - BART'S THOUGHT BALLOON

Bart, carrying an old fashioned machine gun, is robbing
Santa's toy shop. The elves and Santa hold their hands up.
Bart has a truck full of toys.

BART

Now lie on the floor and count to 60.

BACK TO SCENE

LISA

Why don't we write an "Itchy and Scratchy" episode? We'd make a great team with my writing skills and your semi-psychotic tendencies.

ANGLE ON BART

He is now imagining himself shaking down the EASTER BUNNY.

BART

(TO LISA) Sure, why not?

Bart looks back up towards his fantasy. He holds a basket and points a gun at the Easter Bunny.

BART (FANTASY)

In five minutes either your eggs or your brains are gonna be in this basket. Now, hop to it.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Homer lies on the couch with a beer. MARGE goes through the mail.

MARGE

(READING) "3rd Notice," "Final Notice,"
"Some Guys are Coming"... Ooh, what's
this?

She opens a letter.

MARGE (CONT'D)

An invitation to our High School
Reunion.

She looks at the mail.

MARGE (CONT'D)

Gee, that's odd. They didn't send one
to you.

ANGLE ON HOMER

Looking stricken.

HOMER'S BRAIN (V.O)

This is it, Homer. It's time to tell
her the terrible secret from your past.

HOMER

Marge, I ate those fancy soaps you
bought for the bathroom.

MARGE

Oh my God.

HOMER'S BRAIN (V.O)

No, the other secret.

HOMER

Marge, I never graduated from high
school. I was one credit short.

MARGE

Well that still doesn't explain why you
ate my soap. Wait, maybe it does.

HOMER

(MOANS) Now I can't go to my class
reunion.

MARGE

You can go as my date.

HOMER

(SLYLY) Then afterwards we can go to
"Inspiration Point" and watch the
submarine races. Heh, heh.

HOMER'S THOUGHT BUBBLE

He pictures himself and Marge sitting on a hill overlooking
the ocean, watching two racing submarines.

HOMER

Woo hoo! Go Nautilus.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Bart sits on the bed. Lisa sits at her typewriter, looking
through a book titled, "HOW TO GET RICH WRITING CARTOONS by
JOHN SWARTZWELDER."

LISA

According to this book, the first thing
we need is a three act structure.

BART

Ok, mouse hurts cat, mouse kills cat,
mouse defiles cat's grave.

LISA

Next we'll need a setting.

Bart looks outside. Homer is trimming the hedges while
Marge reads a magazine. Homer chops the top off Marge's
hair but she doesn't notice. Homer quickly places a stick
in her hair for support, stuffs the chopped-off hair back
on and sneaks away.

BART

How about a barber shop?

LISA

Great.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CARTOON BARBER SHOP

As Lisa **SPEAKS**, her idea comes to life. Scratchy is sitting in a barber's chair.

LISA (V.O.)

Scratchy is getting a haircut. Then
Itchy -- the barber -- chops Scratchy's
head off with a razor!

Scratchy's head falls off and his neck spurts blood.

BART (V.O)

Eh, too predictable. The way I see it,
instead of shampoo Itchy covers
Scratchy's hair with barbecue sauce...

The razor disappears and is replaced by a bottle of
barbecue sauce. Itchy coats Scratchy's head with sauce as
if lathering it.

BART (V.O) (CONT'D)

... opens a box of flesh-eating ants...

Itchy opens a box labelled "Flesh-Eating Ants." The ANTS
swarm on Scratchy, gnawing his head through to the skull.

BART (V.O.) (CONT'D)

... and the rest writes itself.

Itchy jacks Scratchy's barber chair up through the
ceiling to the apartment above. Scratchy's skull crashes
through the bottom of a TV. His skull appears on screen.
WIDEN to see a bloated ELVIS-TYPE watching TV in a
Graceland setting.

ELVIS-TYPE

This show ain't no good. Ya!

He pulls a gun and **SHOOTS** the TV screen and Scratchy.

BACK TO SCENE

LISA

Finished. Now all we have to do is put
our names on it.

BART

Fine. (PAUSE) Put my name first.

LISA

No way.

BART

All right we'll compromise. Use my
first name and your last name.

LISA

Okay. (THINKS) Hey wait a minute. Look
there's only one honorable way to
settle this: rock, paper, scissors.

Bart and Lisa each put a hand behind their backs. PAN UP
to Lisa's brain.

LISA'S BRAIN (V.O)

Poor predictable Bart. Always takes
rock.

PAN UP to Bart.

BART'S BRAIN (V.O)

Good ol' rock. Nothing beats that.
They each bring out their hands.

BART

Rock.

LISA

Paper.

BART

(ANNOYED GRUNT) I always forget about
paper.

EXT. ITCHY AND SCRATCHY STUDIOS ESTABLISHING - DAY

INT. ROGER MEYERS' OFFICE - TWO DAYS LATER

ROGER stands behind his desk, **SCREAMING** at a nerdy WRITER.

MEYERS

You call this writing!? If I puked in
a fountain pen and mailed it to the
monkey house I'd get better scripts!

WRITER

But sir, at Harvard they taught me
to...

MEYERS

At Harvard... hit the streets, egghead!
You should've majored in Not-Getting-
Fired.

The writer exits. Meyers' secretary, ROXIE enters with the
morning mail. She hands Meyers a script with a cover-
letter.

ROXIE

Sir, a Lisa and Bart Simpson sent you a
script...

MEYERS

Yeah, yeah, yeah. (READING) Dear Mr.
Meyers: My brother and I watch your
show. You should be proud that
children everywhere blah - blah - blah
- bling - bling - bling - blah.

He **CRUMPLES** up the letter and tosses it into an enormous
pile of crumpled letters.

ROXIE

Shall I send the usual rejection
letter?

MEYERS

Nah, they're just kids. I better do it
myself.

He starts to dictate a letter.

MEYERS (CONT'D)

Dear Bart and Lisa, when I hire an
employee, I like to think that he can
go potty on his own. In my opinion, you
kids don't know...

INT. BART AND LISA'S BEDROOM

Lisa is reading the letter to Bart.

LISA

(POINTING) I know this word, but what's
shinola?

BART

(MOANS) I guess we're just not cut out
to be writers.

LISA

Maybe he just doesn't take us seriously
'cause we're kids. Let's put a
grownup's name on it.

BART

Well, how about Grampa? He's pretty
out of it. He let those guys use his
check book for a whole year.

LISA

Grampa it is. (BEAT) Wait a minute.
What's his first name?

BART

Grampa doesn't have a first name. The
same way he doesn't have a TV or a
phone.

Lisa gives him a look.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Homer flips through a large, red book.

HOMER

Ah, my high school yearbook...

ANGLE - THE PAGE WITH HOMER'S PICTURE

His eyes are closed and his mouth is open. His hair sticks
out on both sides and he has a wimpy teenage moustache.

HOMER

You handsome devil.

He looks at the quote beneath his picture.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(READING) "I can't believe I ate the
whole thing." (CHUCKLES)

Homer reads some more.

HOMER (CONT'D)

"Activities, none. Sports, none.
Honors, none." So many memories.

Bart and Lisa head toward the door.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Where are you kids going?

LISA

We're going to see Grampa.

HOMER

Don't lie to me.

BART

We're going to play with highway
flares.

HOMER

Carry on.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD RETIREMENT HOME - ESTABLISHING SHOT

INT. GRAMPA'S ROOM

GRAMPA sits at his desk, **POUNDING** out a letter on an
ancient typewriter.

GRAMPA

"... when I read your magazine I don't see one wrinkled face or a single toothless grin. For shame!"

(ADDRESSING LETTER) To the sickos at Modern Bride magazine.

Bart and Lisa enter.

BART

Hey Grampa, we need to know your first name.

GRAMPA

(HORRIFIED) You're making my tombstone!

LISA

No, we're just curious.

GRAMPA

Alright, let's see. First name... first name... Well, whenever I'm confused, I just check my underwear. It holds the answer to all the important questions.

Grampa pulls his underwear up from his pants.

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

Call me... Hanes Medium!

Grampa checks another part of his underwear with writing on it.

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

No, wait. (READING) Abraham Simpson.

(REALIZING) Oh my God. I've been getting the wrong pills for two years.

INT. ROGER MEYERS' OFFICE - NIGHT

Roger Meyers sits behind his desk. He picks up a script from a large pile on his desk. It reads, "THE LITTLE BARBER SHOP OF HORRORS" and below the title, "WRITTEN BY ABRAHAM SIMPSON." As Meyers turns the pages he starts to CHUCKLE. His chuckling turns to LAUGHTER, then HYSTERICAL LAUGHTER. He urgently BUZZES his secretary.

MEYERS

Roxie, get me Abraham Simpson!

ROXIE (V.O.)

Get him yourself.

MEYERS

If I ever find that roll of film, she's out of here.

ROXIE (V.O.)

Dream on, pervert.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. SIMPSON HOME - NEXT DAY - NIGHT

Marge is dressed up, Homer enters in his suit.

HOMER

Ahh. My High School Reunion. It'll be
great to see the old gang again...
Potsy, Ralph Malph, "The Fonz"...

MARGE

That was "Happy Days."

HOMER

Oh yeah, you're right. I had no
friends.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

A banner read "WELCOME CLASS OF 1974." On the lawn,
several ADULT BULLIES are roughing up a SMALLER ADULT.

ADULT

C'mon, guys, I'm a State Legislator
now!

NELSON'S DAD

(NELSON VOICE) Big deal! (TO FRIEND)
Get his pants.

At the door, we see PRINCIPAL DONDELINGER. Homer and Marge
approach.

MARGE

Hello Principal Dondelinger.

PRINCIPAL DONDELINGER (CONT'D)

(WARMLY) Marge Bouvier, it's so good to
see you.

Dondelinger turns to Homer.

PRINCIPAL DONDELINGER (CONT'D)

Sorry, sir. The fortieth reunion is
next week.

HOMER

(ANNOYED GRUNT)

PRINCIPAL DONDELINGER

Oh, it's you Simpson. (DISGUSTED
NOISE)

Dondelinger exits. Marge and Homer enter the gym.

HOMER

(SEES SOMEONE) Look, there's Bobby
Mindich, the class clown.

Homer waves to BOBBY. Bobby slumps his shoulders, scowls,
and makes two peace signs.

BOBBY MINDICH

(A LA NIXON) I am not a crook.

HOMER

Heh heh, he's still got it!

BARNEY crosses to Homer and Marge. He's wearing a tuxedo.

BARNEY

Hey Homer, Marge.

MARGE

(IMPRESSED) Oh Barney, a tuxedo!

BARNEY

I bet nobody expected old Barney to
look this good. Uh-oh. My boss is
watching.

Barney picks up a tray and walks into the crowd.

BARNEY (CONT'D)

Canapes? Canapes anyone? (SEES
SOMEONE, GLOATING) So it's the girl who
was too good for me. Canape?

INT. GYM - A LITTLE LATER

Marge sees someone.

MARGE

Oh my God, it's my old boyfriend, Artie
Ziff.

ARTIE approaches. He has a thin moustache and carries a
gold walking stick.

ARTIE

Hello, Marge. Have you heard? I'm
stinking rich.

He points his walking stick at Homer.

ARTIE (CONT'D)

Jealous?

HOMER

I'll bet you'd trade it all for one
night with my wife.

ARTIE

(ADMITTING) I would.

HOMER

(CONSIDERING) Hmmm.

MARGE

Homer!

INT. GYMNASIUM - A LITTLE WHILE LATER

Bobby Mindich, the class clown, is at the podium. He's doing a Cheech and Chong routine.

BOBBY MINDICH

(LATINO VOICE) Hey, man. It's Dave.

Open up man. (SPACED OUT VOICE) Dave's not here, man.

HOMER

(LAUGHS UPROARIOUSLY)

BOBBY MINDICH

Okay now let's move on...

HOMER

No, please! One more!

BOBBY MINDICH

(SPACED OUT) Dave's not here, man.

HOMER

(LAUGHS UPROARIOUSLY) The guy's so high, he doesn't even know that's Dave.

BOBBY MINDICH

Homer, Homer?

HOMER

Homer's not here man.

BOBBY MINDICH

Okay, very good. Now, let's get on with
our (ED SULLIVAN IMPRESSION) rilly big
shew...

HOMER

(WHISPERS TO MARGE) Ed Sullivan.

MARGE

Shh.

BOBBY MINDICH

... First, the award for the alumnus
who's gained the most weight...

SFX DRUM ROLL

BOBBY MINDICH (CONT'D)

Homer Simpson!

A spotlight falls on a happy Homer.

HOMER

Woo Hoo!

He runs up to the stage.

BOBBY MINDICH

How'd you do it, Homer?

HOMER

(INTO MIKE) I discovered a meal between
breakfast and brunch.

FLIP TO:

INT. GYMNASIUM - LATER

Bobby Mindich opens another envelope.

BOBBY MINDICH

And now the man who lost the most
hair... Homer Simpson!

HOMER

(PUMPING FIST) Yes!

FLIP TO:

HOMER'S TABLE

It's covered with awards and Homer has his fingers crossed.

BOBBY MINDICH (V.O.)

And the person who travelled the least
distance to be here... (IMITATING FLO
FROM "ALICE") Well, kiss my grits...
Homer Simpson!

Homer runs to the stage and accepts his award.

HOMER

What can I say... It hasn't been easy
staying in my rut...

Principal Dondelinger comes up to the podium.

PRINCIPAL DONDELINGER

Class of '74, I was just leafing
through your permanent records when I
discovered something shocking. Homer
Simpson never passed Remedial Science
1A and thus never graduated from high
school.

The audience **GASPS**.

PRINCIPAL DONDELINGER (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, Simpson, but I'm going to
have to take back those awards.

Homer walks off the stage upset. Everyone starts **LAUGHING**.

Bobby Mindich is doing a Howard Cosell impression by
holding his nose and **SPEAKING** into a spoon.

BOBBY MINDICH

This is Howard Cosmell. Homer Simpson
is a boob. What do you think J.J.?
(IMITATING JIMMIE WALKER) Dynamite!

BARNEY

Didn't graduate. How low can you get?

Barney's boss walks up.

BARNEY'S BOSS

Barney, where's your cummerbund?

BARNEY

It fell in the toilet.

Homer turns to Marge with a determined look.

HOMER

Marge, I can't live this shame anymore.
I don't care what it takes, I'm going
to overcome this. It'll be like that
movie... you know, where that woman
skier fell off the mountain. I think
it was called "Don't Fall Off the
Mountain."

MARGE

What's your point?

HOMER

(DRAMATIC) I am going to ski!... I
mean, graduate from high school.

INT. SPRINGFIELD RETIREMENT HOME - DAY

JASPER

What do you want to do today?

GRAMPA

Let's watch MTV and shake our heads
disapprovingly.

JASPER

I'm there.

An ORDERLY holds up a phone receiver.

ORDERLY

Phone call Simpson.

Grampa grabs the phone.

GRAMPA

Beh?

ROXIE (V.O.)

Is this the Abraham Simpson who wrote
the "Itchy and Scratchy" episode?

GRAMPA

"Ishy and Wha?" You must be some kind
of crazy person!

ROXIE (V.O.)

I'm sorry, but we have a substantial
check here for a Mr. Abraham Simpson.

GRAMPA

That's right, I did the "Iggy."

INT. ROGER MEYERS' OFFICE - LATER

Grampa stands in front of Roger Meyers.

MEYERS

You're a comedy writer? My god, you're so old...

GRAMPA

I want my check!

MEYERS

(CHUCKLES) You're a writer all right.

(HANDS HIM A CHECK) Alright here you go, Simpson.

GRAMPA

I want another one.

MEYERS

You're a funny guy. How would you like a staff job? I'll start you at eight hundred dollars a week.

GRAMPA

My chest hurts.

INT. WRITERS' OFFICE - DAY

It's a pig sty, filled with rotting food and flies.

MEYERS

All right, leeches, I want you to see what a good writer looks like. His name's Abraham Simpson and he's got something you couldn't get at your fancy schools... life experience.

WRITER #2

Actually, you know I wrote my thesis on life experience...

MEYERS

Oh, you wrote your... Quiet! Abe, tell 'em about your amazing life.

GRAMPA

I spent forty years as a night watchman at a cranberry silo.

MEYERS

Wow!

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - NIGHT

Bart and Lisa are watching television.

ON TV

Krusty the Clown is demonstrating how to use a nicotine patch.

KRUSTY

So, this patch steadily releases nicotine into my body, eliminating my need for cigarettes.

Krusty stares uncomfortably for a beat, then starts ravenously licking the nicotine patch.

KRUSTY

(SLURPING NOISES, THEN) Roll the
cartoon.

An "Itchy and Scratchy" cartoon comes on. As the credits roll we see a title card: "Little Barber Shop of Horrors" written by Abraham J. Simpson.

LISA

(EXCITED) Bart! Our cartoon's on TV!

BART

Alright! Turn up the volume.

Lisa presses the remote.

ON TV

We see that Lisa has changed the channel by mistake. We see a science show.

ANNOUNCER (V.O)

Erosion is a slow but steady process...

BART/LISA

(SCREAM)

Lisa **CLICKS** the remote again. The Itchy and Scratchy cartoon comes back. Bart and Lisa watch happily. The cartoon ends.

BACK TO SCENE

BART/LISA

(SIGH)

Homer walks in.

HOMER

Bart, Lisa I have something to tell
you, and I'm not proud of it. (BEAT) I
never graduated from high school.

BART

(LAUGHS HEARTILY)

HOMER

(A LITTLE MAD) So I'm going back to school to get my diploma.

LISA

Wow, Dad. That takes a lot of courage.

BART

I'm proud of you, too. You got married and raised a family... all with the mind of a child.

HOMER

Bart!

BART

Lis, get Tiny here a cookie, he's earned it.

A GROWLING Homer grabs Bart and starts to **CHOKE** him.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE FOYER - A FEW DAYS LATER

The doorbell **RINGS** and Homer answers it, revealing Grampa. He's wearing a nice suit.

GRAMPA

Hello, son! I was on my way home from work and thought I'd drop by.

HOMER

(DISBELIEVING) Oh, you have a job?

What is it? Rainbow polisher?

Leprechaun hunter? (TOO CUTE) Unicorn wrangler?

GRAMPA

Don't be an idiot. They pay me eight
hundred dollars a week to tell a cat
and mouse what to do.

HOMER

(SKEPTICAL) I see.

HOMER'S THOUGHT BUBBLE

We see a building labeled "Nut House." Homer rolls Grampa
up in a wheelbarrow.

GRAMPA

Lalalalalalalalalalalala.

Homer **RINGS** the doorbell and runs away.

BACK TO SCENE

BART

Dad, can we talk to Grampa alone for a
minute?

HOMER

All right. (CONFIDENTIALLY) But if he
starts to wig out, try to lure him into
the cellar.

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Grampa sits on the couch as Bart and Lisa wrap up their
explanation.

LISA

...then we put your name on the script
and sent it in.

GRAMPA

So that's why they were so nice down at
"Richie and Cathy".

BART

Itchy and Scratchy.

GRAMPA

Who now?

BART

Didn't you wonder why you were getting
checks for doing absolutely nothing?

GRAMPA

I figured the Democrats were in power
again.

LISA

Grampa, we could write the scripts for
you and split the money three ways.

GRAMPA

I dunno. I'd better sleep on it.

(FALLS ASLEEP, SNORES)

BART

Grampa? Grampa?

He nudges Grampa.

GRAMPA

(SPUTTERS) Why'd you wake me? I was
having the nicest dream. I dreamed I
was Queen of the Old West. I kept a six
shooter in my garter, I did...

BART

Do we have a deal?

GRAMPA

Sure, sure.

Grampa falls back to sleep. **SNORES** a bit, then:

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

Oh, Mr. Earp, your moustache is
tickling me. (GIGGLES)

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. ITCHY AND SCRATCHY STUDIOS - GRAMPA'S OFFICE - DAY

Bart and Lisa are typing a script as Grampa lies on the couch.

Meyers passes by and walks in.

MEYERS

Hey, Abe who are they?

GRAMPA

Uh... these are some kids my son had.

MEYERS

Your grandchildren. Why didn't you say so? C'mon, I'll give you a tour of the studio.

BART/LISA

Yay!

MEYERS

Abe, are you comin'?

GRAMPA

(STANDING) Any stairs?

MEYERS

Just one.

GRAMPA

Nuts to you!

Grampa sits back down.

INT. ANIMATION BUILDING

Meyers leads Bart and Lisa through glass doors labeled:
"Animation Wing."

LISA

Wow it must be expensive to produce all
these cartoons.

MEYERS

We cut corners. Sometimes, to save
money, our animators will re-use the
same backgrounds over and over and over
again...

As they walk down the hallway, we see the same water
fountain, door, and CLEANING WOMAN pass several times in
the background.

INT. DUBBING BUILDING

They walk past a series of sound booths.

MEYERS

Now these rooms are where we dub the
show into forty different languages.

Bart and Lisa look into the room. We see TWO JAPANESE
MEN standing at mics. Behind them is a screen which plays
a scene of Itchy as an old-fashioned butcher running
Scratchy through a deli slicer.

JAPANESE SCRATCHY

(SCREAMS)

They continue to the next room. Above the window it says,
'GERMAN.' Inside are TWO LARGE BLONDE MEN at the mics
dubbing the same scene.

GERMAN SCRATCHY

(SCREAMS)

They move on to a third window marked "FRENCH." Inside TWO
MEN WEARING BERETS stand at the mics.

FRENCH SCRATCHY

(A LA JERRY LEWIS) Nice mouse. Stop
with the pain-making. Ooh hurting
mouse, have some cheese.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL CLASS ROOM - NIGHT

MIDDLE-AGED PEOPLE, including Homer, file in. NELSON
stands next to them and points.

NELSON

Haw, Haw! Haw, Haw! Haw, Haw!

INT. CLASSROOM

Homer sits with other extension students. Principal
Dondelinger enters.

PRINCIPAL DONDELINGER

Welcome to Remedial Science 1A. My
wife recently passed away, and I
thought teaching might ease my
loneliness.

HOMER

Will this be on the test?

PRINCIPAL DONDELINGER

No.

HOMER

(MOANS)

We see he's written "Dead Wife" on a sheet of paper. He
starts erasing it, furiously.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT

Grampa and Bart approach each other. Both wear trench
coats and both carry suitcases.

GRAMPA

Got the script?

BART

Got the money?

They each nod and switch suitcases.

In another corner we see A FARMER furtively talking to a FOREST RANGER.

FOREST RANGER

You got the doe?

FARMER

You got the kid?

PAN DOWN to see them exchange a female deer and a baby goat. PAN OVER to WIGGUM and QUIMBY (wearing his Mayor's sash) in another area of the same garage.

QUIMBY

Got the photos?

WIGGUM

Got the donuts?

They switch suitcases. PAN OVER TO the PARKING LOT ATTENDANT.

PARKING LOT ATTENDANT

Don't nobody wanna park no more?

INT. SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL - CLASS ROOM - NIGHT

Dondelinger is teaching. He holds up a plain donut.

DONDELINGER

Now, I'm going to burn this donut to show you how many calories it has.

HOMER

Nooooooooo!

DONDELINGER

The bright blue flame indicates this
was a particularly sweet donut.

HOMER

(SOBBING) This is not happening. This
is not happening.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - BART'S BEDROOM - DAY

Grampa is handing Bart and Lisa a check.

GRAMPA

Here's your share of the money, kids.

LISA

I'm putting mine in treasury bills
that'll mature when I enter college.

WIDEN to see a big screen TV in Bart's room.

BART

And I brought this big screen TV...
made in the U.S.A.

Bart hits the remote.

SFX: BZZZT

A puff of smoke come out of the TV. It goes dead. A
screw rolls out toward Bart.

BART

Ah, well. We're still the greatest
country on earth.

LISA

(SKEPTICAL) Yeah, right.

INT. KRUSTY STUDIO - DAY

Krusty is covered in nicotine patches.

KRUSTY

Hey Mel, bring me another nicotine
patch.

SIDESHOW MEL approaches with a patch.

KRUSTY

I think there's some space left on my
butt. And now, here's another fine Itchy
and Scratchy cartoon by Abraham
Simpson..

The kids CHEER.

ON TV

We see an Itchy and Scratchy title card: "SCREAMS FROM A
MALL".

INT. SHOPPING MALL - DAY

Scratchy gets on an up escalator. Itchy runs up and nails
Scratchy's feet to the escalator. As the escalator
approaches the top, a terrified Scratchy gnaws one foot
off, but can't gnaw the other foot off before he is pulled
under the top. His skin piles up. Itchy takes it and runs
into a store labelled "FINE FURS". A beat later, Itchy
exits holding a wad of bills followed by a high society
couple -- the snooty wife has Scratchy's fur draped around
her. The blood drips off and Scratchy's tongue is hanging
out of his dead head.

INT. GRAMPA'S OFFICE - DAY

Grampa is typing.

GRAMPA

Dear Mr. President. There are too many
states nowadays. Please eliminate
three. I am not a crackpot.

Meyers walks in.

MEYERS

Good news, Abe.

GRAMPA

They've made a softer apple?

MEYERS

No. You've been nominated for an award. You're so good I've fired the other writers. From now on the fate of the entire company rests on that delightful coconut of yours.

Meyers **KISSES** Grampa's head affectionately.

GRAMPA

Oh no! We're all doomed! I'm a complete fraud.

MEYERS

(NOT LISTENING) Sorry, I didn't catch any of that. (CHECKS WATCH) And now I gotta go.

Meyers exits.

INT. SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - NIGHT

The chalkboard reads "FINAL EXAM TONIGHT." The students sit, including Homer, as Dondelinger hands out the tests.

DONDELINGER

Here are your exams. Fifty questions, true or false.

HOMER

True.

DONDELINGER

Homer, I was just describing the test.

HOMER

True.

DONDELINGER

Look, Homer, just take the test and
you'll do fine.

HOMER

False.

Dondelinger hands him the test. Homer addresses his brain.

HOMER

All right Brain, you don't like me and
I don't like you. But let's just do
this and I can get back to killing you
with beer.

HOMER'S BRAIN (V.O.)

It's a deal!

He starts writing.

INT. SPRINGFIELD RETIREMENT HOME - NIGHT

Grampa stands in front of the mirror adjusting his tie.

GRAMPA

(REHEARSING HIS SPEECH) Thank you for
this award. There are so many people
who helped me get here; me sainted
mither, me no-account fither... the
young motorcyclist that gave me my
heart...

Bart and Lisa enter dressed formally.

BART

Yo, Grampa! Time for the awards.

GRAMPA

You know, I still can't believe it.

There are two hundred and forty million
people in this country, and only
fifteen million have Emmys.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD CIVIC CENTER - NIGHT

The marquee reads: "Friday, 39th Annual Cartoon Awards."
Below it reads: "Saturday, Closed for Roach Spraying."

INT. SPRINGFIELD CIVIC CENTER - NIGHT

The AUDIENCE is packed with people in tuxedos and sequined
gowns. We see Grampa, Bart and Lisa seated. Kettle drums
RUMBLE.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

And now to present the award for
outstanding writing in a cartoon
series, Krusty the Clown and Brooke
Shields.

The audience **APPLAUDS** as Krusty and BROOKE SHIELDS walk
hand in hand to a podium. Krusty reads the Teleprompter.

KRUSTY

Well, here we are, the star of "The
Blue Lagoon," and me, "The Blue Haired
Goon." (REALIZING) What the... that's
terrible.

BROOKE

Cartoons have the power to make us
laugh and to make us cry. Wouldn't you
agree, Krusty?

KRUSTY

First of all my hair is green, not
blue. I got nothin' to work with here,
nothin'.

He angrily walks off the stage. Brooke looks around
nervously for a beat.

BROOKE

(NERVOUS NOISE) Uh... The nominees for
best writing in a cartoon series are...
"Strong-dar, Master of Akom," the
"Wedding" episode.

ANGLE - CLIP

We see a "HE-MAN" TYPE HERO marrying a very normal looking
WOMAN. He tugs nervously at his collar.

BROOKE (V.O)

"Action-Figure Man," the "How to Buy
Action Figure Man" episode.

ANGLE - CLIP

a CHILD and his MOTHER in a department store. The child
points to an action figure on a shelf and CRIES.

CHILD

Please Mommy I want it.

The mother rolls her eyes and picks up the toy.

BROOKE (V.O)

"Ren and Stimpy", season premiere.

ON SCREEN

We see an art card that reads "CLIP NOT DONE YET."

BROOKE (V.O)

And, finally, "Itchy and Scratchy,"
"The Little Barber Shop of Horrors"
episode.

ANGLE AUDIENCE

We see Grampa, Bart and Lisa looking nervous.

GRAMPA

Cross my fingers for me.

Lisa crosses his fingers.

SFX: LOUD DRY SNAP

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

That's gonna hurt come winter.

ANGLE - CLIP

We see the shot of flesh eating ants eating Scratchy's skull. The audience **LAUGHS**.

ANGLE GRAMPA

He is horrified.

BROOKE

(CHUCKLING) And the winner is... "Itchy
and Scratchy," Abraham Simpson writer!

Grampa takes the stage as the crowd applauds.

GRAMPA

That was the first time I ever saw
"Itchy and Scratchy" and I didn't like
it one bit. It was disgusting and
violent. I think all you people are
despicable.

He holds up the award.

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

Oh, and this is truly an honor because
it came from my peers. 'Bye now.

He walks off to moderate to loud **MUTTERINGS**. Several items
are thrown at Grampa including fruit and awards.

ANGLE ON AUDIENCE

We see other cartoon writers.

WRITER

He's right! We've been wasting our
lives!

WRITER #2

The hell with cartoons. I'm gonna do
what I've always dreamed of. I'm gonna
write that sitcom about the sassy
robot.

A furious Meyers confronts Grampa.

MEYERS

You're fired.

GRAMPA

Oh yeah?

He reels back and slugs Meyers. Meyers does not react.

GRAMPA

How did that feel?

MEYERS

Like being stroked by a damp mitten.

GRAMPA

(PROUDLY) I still got it.

INT. AUDIENCE

Grampa comes up to Bart and Lisa. He hands them his award.

GRAMPA

Here kids, I guess you deserve this.

Let's go.

LISA

I guess nobody likes the truth, huh

Grampa.

GRAMPA

Nope.

BART

I'll never watch an awards show

again... unless that delightful Billy

Crystal's involved.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - NIGHT

We see Homer's hands place a diploma into a trophy case.

HOMER (V.O.)

(PROUDLY) My high school diploma.

Lisa's hands place the kids' award in the case.

LISA

Our writing award.

PULL BACK to see the entire family stands admiringly at the trophy case, with two awards in it.

MARGE

Our trophy case is gonna fill up in no time...

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - YEARS LATER

SUPER: 2025 A.D.

The Simpsons, now aged, look at the trophy case which is exactly the same. The dog has been replaced by a robot dog.

MARGE

...or not.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE